

# House Panel, in Last Report, Urges New Security Plan on Secret Files

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6—The House ethics committee, in making public its final report into its investigation of the unauthorized disclosure of the Pike intelligence committee report, urged today that Congress set up a new security and classification system for secret documents.

The ethics report was critical of the state of security on the now defunct House Select Committee on Intelligence Operations headed by Representative Otis G. Pike, Democrat of Suffolk County.

"The rules and security regulations adopted by the Select Committee were adequate," the report stated. "They were not, however, strictly adhered to or executed."

As an example, the report stated that "a number of classified and highly sensitive documents were discovered by this committee still in the possession of select committee members and staff personnel

months after that committee ceased to exist."

The report said the House needed "the services of a trained professional security officer, with strong administrative support," but the recommendation was not unanimous.

### Dissenting View Offered

Representative Thomas S. Foley, Democrat of Washington, said in dissenting views that "to repose in a group of professional security officers the responsibility to police the flow of sensitive information...is an unprecedented and startling proposal whose implications for the House should be obvious."

Mr. Foley said such a move would amount to the abrogating of the responsibility of the House to govern its own actions.

A majority of the committee members also agreed that the conduct of Daniel Schorr, the former correspondent for CBS News who obtained an unauthorized copy of the Pike report, had been "reprehensible."

Again, Mr. Foley did not agree. He said, "The committee's denunciation of Schorr and its general lecture to the press of its responsibilities under the First Amendment contained in the report and the additional views seem to me to be unnecessary and gratuitous."

### Newsmen Not Infallible

According to the report, "Newsmen, just like anyone else, are not infallible in their judgment of what is right or wrong, good or bad, for our nation...The fact is, the news media frequently do not possess sufficient information on which to make a prudent decision on whether the revelation of a secret will help or harm. We suggest caution and discretion should be the watchwords."

As to the unauthorized disclosure itself, the report reiterated remarks that had been made repeatedly by the committee chairman, Representative John J. Flynt, Democrat of Georgia, that "the original leak was someone on or very close to the Select Committee staff."

Thus the House, which ordered the ethics committee to investigate the unauthorized disclosure and find the source, still does not know that source despite an investigation that lasted six months and cost about \$200,000.